

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 12-14, 18-21, 24-68 and 71-84 are pending. Applicants hereby amend claims 1, 25, 26, 63, 64, 65, 71 and 80-84. Also, claims 35-54, 57 and 58 were previously withdrawn and claims 5-11, 15-17, 22-23, 27-34 and 69-70 have been canceled.

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-14, 12-14, 18-21, 24-26, 59-68 and 71-79 are all allowed. The Applicants thank the Examiner for favorable consideration of these claims. It is noted that claims 1, 25, 26, 63, 64, 65 and 71 have been amended to address grammar and punctuation formalities, such as changing the adjective “irregular” to the adverb “irregularly” to properly explain the shaping of the mold outline. It is noted that none of these amendments were made to address any issues regarding patentability of the claimed inventions.

Claim Rejections based on 35 USC § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 80-84 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. The Examiner asserted that the rejection was due to these claims referring to “the depression” in the singular when the independent claims refer to the option of singular or multiple depressions. The Applicants traverse the rejection, but in an effort to advance prosecution have amended claims 80, 81, 83 and 84 to include language that adds the option of singular and multiple depressions. Also, claim 82 has been canceled thereby rendering the rejection moot. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection in view of amended claims 80, 81, 83, and 84 and the cancellation of claim 82.

Claim Rejections based on 35 USC § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 55, 56 and 82 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunkel (U.S. Pat. No. 5,427,016) in view of any one of Davis (U.S. Pat. No. 5,293,021), Glasser et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 3,941,892) or Shimizu (U.S. Pat. No. 4,961,946). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, in order to advance prosecution and obtain patent issuance on the claims that are indicated as being allowable (i.e. claims 1-4, 12-14, 18-21, 24-26, 59-68 and 71-79) the Applicants have canceled claims 55, 56 and 82. It is noted that the Applicants reserve the right to pursue in subsequent continuation or divisional applications, claims 55, 56 and 82 and all claims that were previously withdrawn. It is further

submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and therefore, favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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